

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of providing on-line certificates of authenticity for
2 collectibles where a collector has personally witnessed the
3 collectible being signed comprising the following steps:
 - 4 a. connecting an originating computer via an online
5 communication system to a central computer,
 - 6 b. providing information from the originating computer to the
7 central computer about a collector and a collectible for which
8 the collector seeks to obtain a certificate of authentication in
9 order to obtain a user number for the collector and a serial
10 number for the collectible from the central computer and
11 storing the information about the collector and the collectible
12 on the central computer,
 - 13 c. printing and providing to the collector a certificate of
14 authenticity bearing a serialized hologram with bar code and
15 an identical serialized hologram with bar code for attachment
16 to the collectible,

17 d. requiring the collector to sign a statement on the certificate
18 of authenticity that declares, under penalty of perjury, the
19 information that the collector provided regarding the
20 collectible is correct.

1 2. A method of providing on-line certificates of authenticity for
2 collectibles according to Claim 1 further comprising the following
3 step that occurs after step d:

4 e. allowing users to access information on a collectible that is
5 stored on the central computer via an online communication
6 system.

1 3. A method of providing on-line certificates of authenticity for
2 collectibles according to Claim 1 further comprising the following
3 step that occurs after step d:

4 f. allowing a subsequent purchaser of the collectible to register
5 their ownership of the collectible by connecting their
6 computer via an online communication system to a central
7 computer and providing information to the central computer
8 about the subsequent purchaser.